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TK - 5th Grade Activity Guide for Families

- [Read-Aloud Tips](#)
- [2020 Recommended Book List](#)
- [Oakland Public Library's eBooks and Digital Content](#)

READING

Reading with your child builds key language and literacy skills, including exposure to new vocabulary and expansion of your students' body of background knowledge. This shared experience associates reading with fun and excitement, and instills a love for reading that will benefit them in school and beyond. Here are some **tips** for this meaningful learning time with your child:



- Hold the book so that your child can see the cover and illustrations
- On the cover, make a few comments about the illustration and note the author and illustrator. Share about the author and/or illustrator's background(s) if possible.
- Show excitement by reading the story expressively
- Listen for your child's comments and questions and respond briefly to confirm or clarify
- Provide information to extend your child's understanding of the story (pose questions and comments related to the theme, character's experience or feelings, unfamiliar vocabulary, etc.)
- *Consider* taking turns reading the story with your child. You each might choose a part of the book to read, so that your child can practice reading aloud.

VOCABULARY

Providing a simple explanation for unfamiliar words can help build your child's language skills. You may point to illustrations or use motions to help convey a word's meaning. You may also look up the word's meaning together in a [dictionary](#) (look for the 'kids definition'). Here are some words to explore with your child during your read-aloud and the additional suggested activities offered in this guide:

COMMUNITY: a group of people who share something in common and care about each other

HERITAGE: practices that are handed down from the previous generations

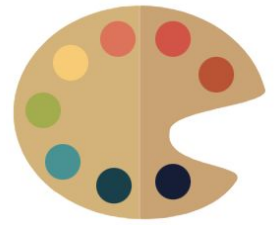
CULTURE: the way of life of a group of people

DIVERSITY: the ways that people are both different and alike; what makes people unique

TRADITIONS: Information, beliefs, or customs handed down from one generation to another

ART

Encourage your child to become an illustrator and artist by creating their own piece(s) of art. First, gather any materials you may have available such as paper, tissue, wrapping paper, newspapers, magazines, junk mail, maps, brochures, recyclable packaging materials, etc. The more diverse the materials, the better! If you don't have glue or tape at home, encourage your child to draw designs, scenes from the story, or any other illustration they feel inspired to produce. When they are done, help them bring their story to life by asking about their work and assisting them with writing some words at the bottom of their paper. Encourage them to add words that describe how they felt while reading and how they feel about celebrating APA Heritage Month. Share your child's art with your community by posting to social media: #APARead-InArt #APAHeritageMonth #ReadingisPower #OaklandReads



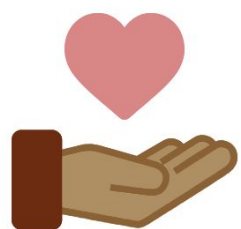
WRITING



Celebrating a Heritage Month means paying tribute, honoring, praising, appreciating, and celebrating the generations who have enriched America's history and are so vital in its future success. Talk to your child about what they are excited to have learned about this community, and what they are still curious about. Encourage them to write a note to the author/illustrator or a character from the book and to decorate the note, to make it as personal and creative as possible. Encourage your child to write a sequel of the book, if that strikes their interest!

COOK TOGETHER

Collaborate with your child to cook something delicious. You can choose to make anything from a special family recipe to a simple boxed recipe. You can start by making an ingredient list, so that you can pull the items from your kitchen together. Talk about the steps that go into preparing your dish, and let your child take the lead on as much of the recipe as possible, so that they can practice measurements, fine motor skills, and autonomy. Use questions that prompt children to consider the different senses during cooking. How does it smell? What does it look like? How do you think it will taste? When the dish is complete, consider sharing a photo with someone in your community or family to celebrate this special project.



COMMUNITY GRATITUDE JAR

Using a jar (or any container you have available), create a gratitude jar. Your child can decorate the jar with you. When it's done, cut some small slips of paper and have your child write (or assist them with writing) the name of something or someone they are grateful. Encourage your child to think not only about people, but also about traditions, customs, or other practices within your community that they appreciate. Keep the jar available, so that your child, or your whole family, can add to it. Feel free to pull some notes out and reread them aloud in order to celebrate special people and things in your life.

KEEP READING

Visit Oakland Public Library's [eBook webpage](#) to access free, downloadable eBooks. Feel free to search for books using search terms like "African American", "Asian-American", "Hawaii", "Latinx", and more. Often, videos of book read alouds are posted online, so search for titles from our recommended book list.

